Coyotes rookie sensation Keller is bright spot in a dark season

SPORTS, 1C

ARIZONA REPUBLIC

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THE WALL A USA TODAY NETWORK REPORT

Did U.S. seek to waive wall laws?

Asking public for legal advice called 'unusual'

Jill Castellano
Palm Springs Desert Sun
USA TODAY NETWORK

Buried in the legal jargon of a document issued in March, the federal government asked people to tell it which laws it should "deviate from" while working on a U.S.-Mexico border wall.

The Department of Homeland Security posted a Request for Information online on March 2, asking professionals and interest groups to contribute their ideas on "long-term strategy" for building and maintaining a 2,000-mile wall along the border. Part of the request asks for people to contribute their ideas on "major deviations from federal law or regulation necessary to make this innovation possible."

Industry experts interpreted this language to mean that the government wanted advice on which laws it should waive – that is, which laws it should be exempt from following – in order to move forward quickly with President Donald Trump's border wall project.

"My immediate thought is they're looking for contractors to make the case against, say, the environmental laws or anything that would require an impact statement or assessment," said Tom

See BORDER WALL, Page 11A

MORE ONLINE

Find in-depth, interactive coverage of the border wall at **TheWall.USATODAY.com**

Above: Examples of wall prototypes near San Diego.
DAVID WALLACE/THE REPUBLIC

HOUSTON HAS NO PROBLEM!

Astros Brian McCann and Charlie Morton celebrate after Houston wins an unpredictable and record-breaking World Series. The Astros took control early in Wednesday's Game 7 by scoring five runs in the first two innings en route to their 5-1 win over the Dodgers in Los Angeles. **1C**
MARK J. TERRILL/AP

USA TODAY

Prosecutors: Terror suspect wants ISIS flag

U.S. prosecutors brought terrorism charges Wednesday against the Uzbek immigrant accused in the truck rampage that left eight people dead, saying he was spurred to attack by the Islamic State group's online calls to action and picked Halloween because the streets would be extra crowded.

Even as he lay wounded in the hospital from police gunfire, Sayfullo Saipov asked to display the Islamic State group's flag in his room and said "he felt good about what he had done," prosecutors said. Saipov, 29, brought to court in a wheelchair, could face the death penalty. **1B**

Phoenix writing: What happens when Stanton quits?

Jessica Boehm
Arizona Republic
USA TODAY NETWORK

When Phoenix Mayor Greg Stanton launched his congressional campaign in October, he answered questions about his own political future but triggered uncertainty about the city's.

Stanton, who has led the city for seven years, will have to resign sometime in the next seven months.

He hasn't said when he will leave, but the timing could dramatically affect not only the race to replace him, but the course of city business.

Stanton's departure will give rise to multiple other resignations as council members — Daniel Valenzuela, Kate Gallego and potentially others— compete to succeed him. It also will bring about temporary replacements and pricey special elections.

During this time of transition, the City Council likely will decide on important and expensive matters, including potential renovations of the Phoenix Suns' arena. The absence of the mayor and current council members — or the addition of replacement members — could alter the fates of those projects.

Phoenix elections are nonpartisan, but politics does come into play. The timing of Stanton's resignation and the subsequent moves of Democrats Valenzuela and Gallego running for mayor could help or hurt Democrats' chances

See ELECTIONS, Page 8A

'It's made it more complicated because no one knows when dominoes will fall.'
Chad Campbell
Political consultant

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT SPORTS, 5C

Suns forward T.J. Warren dribbles against Wizards forward Kelly Oubre Jr. during their NBA game Wednesday in Washington. Phoenix won 122-116.
BRAD MILLS/USA TODAY NETWORK

County elections chief apologizes for profanity

Maricopa County Recorder Adrian Fontes apologized to voters, elections staff, county officials and his family Wednesday for telling a Goodyear voter "go F- yourself" and insulting the voter's mother on Facebook after the Goodyear voter had criticized the county's ballot materials for not being clear about the Nov. 7 election date. **3A**

Valley gets festive for fall

November is the perfect time for Valley residents to enjoy a fall festival, with options ranging from pizza and pumpkins, to bluegrass and brewing. **1D**

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Weather
High 82° Low 61°
Partly sunny. **2A**

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